

White Park TREE TRAIL

discover the trees in White Park, a self-guided walking tour!

Trees are a gift that we give to ourselves, to our children and to future generations. White Park has a great variety of mature trees planted by people who expressed their care for the park more than 30, 60 or even 100 years ago. The White Park Tree Trail is designed to introduce you to some of the many trees that live here and provide us with shade, beauty, environmental benefits and a home for the park's birds and wildlife. We hope this brochure will help you to discover more about White Park, its trees and other features. If you would like to contribute to the efforts of the Friends of White Park, please contact us at the address on this brochure. If you want to learn more about the trees in White Park or its history, please visit the Concord Public Library on Green Street. Financial support to create the White Park Tree Trail was provided by a donation from Joan Farrel.

White Park is a 20-acre public park established in December 1884 as the first public park in Concord. The land to create White Park was donated by Armenia White in memory of her husband, Nathaniel. Mrs. White was the mother of six children and active in the woman's temperance movement and in establishing the Centennial Home for the Aged (now the Centennial Senior Center). Her husband was a businessman involved in transportation (stage line and railroad), hotels and banking. He served in the state legislature in 1852 and was an abolitionist and supporter of woman's suffrage.

Charles Eliot, a well-known landscape architect from Boston, was hired by the city in 1888-89 to develop a plan for the park. Eliot designed White Park as "a place of quiet resort for people who cannot take time or who have not the strength to go often to find refreshment in the open country. The tired workers of the city should be able to reach it easily. Women and children should find it near their homes, a pleasant place in which to spend the afternoon or the day in rest or play."

Today, White Park remains a special place for children and adults of Concord and from many communities beyond. The joy of children playing on the 'Monkey Around Playground' is a special delight. 1,500 volunteers built the large wood playground in 1994. Soccer, basketball and baseball are played in the park; White Park is home to the Sunset League, the oldest after-supper amateur baseball league in the country, founded in 1909. A visit to the park might also include a swim in the children's pool, or a picnic. In the winter, skating and sledding are favorite park activities.

Who are the Friends of White Park?

The Friends of White Park is non-profit, all volunteer group of people who care about White Park and want to be involved in maintaining, preserving and improving the park.

The group meets regularly throughout the year. New ideas and volunteers are always welcome! The group was organized in 1982 by the Woman's Club of Concord in preparation for the 100 year anniversary of White Park, celebrated in 1984.

YES, I would like to be a Friend of White Park!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Your interests or your comments about the park: _____

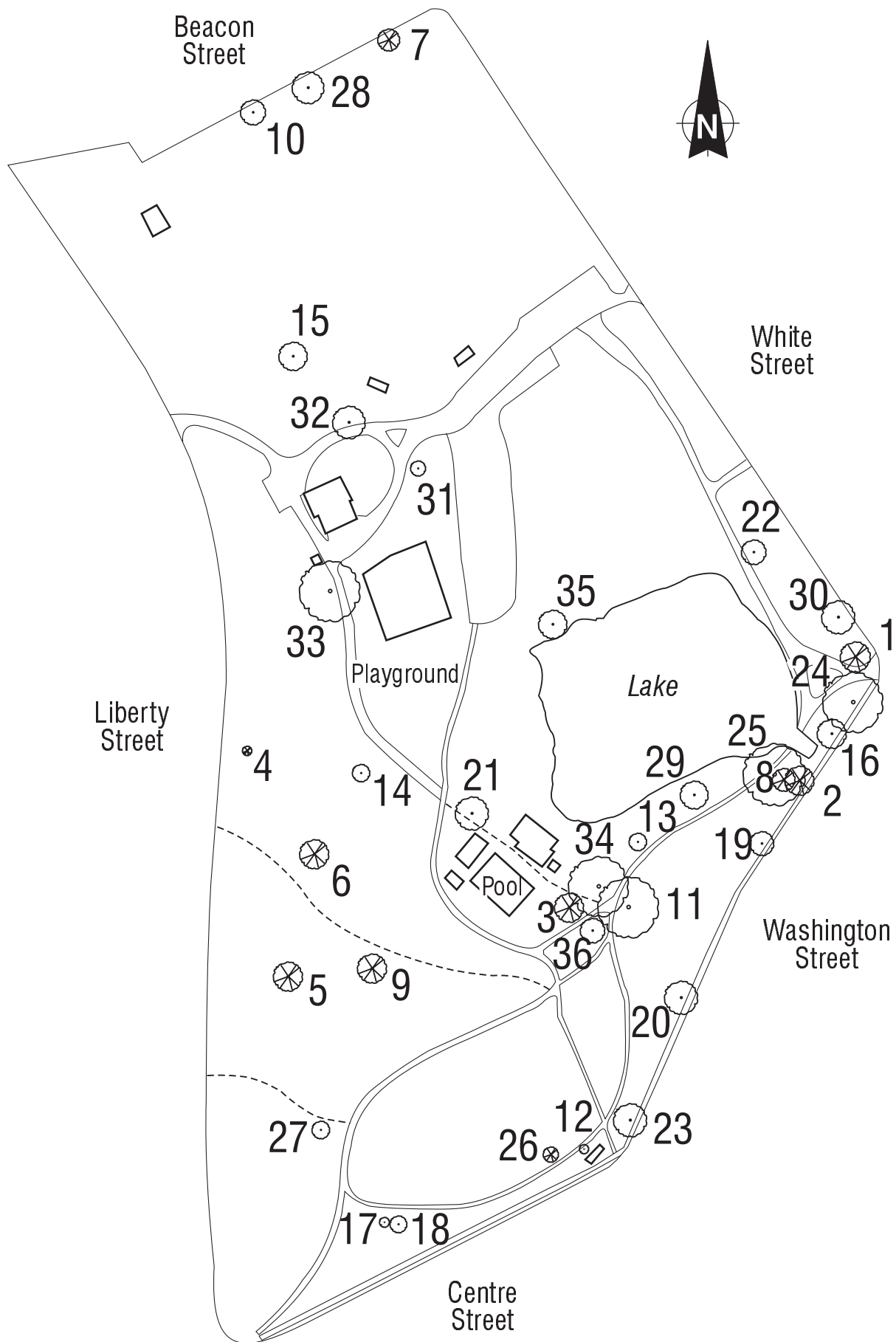
Please consider making a donation to the park!

Friends of White Park is 501©3 non-profit. All donations are tax-deductible.

\$ _____ Amount enclosed.

Return to:

Friends of White Park c/o Groundwork Concord
1 Thompson Street
Concord, NH 03301



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Conifers

1. Eastern Red Cedar, *Juniperus virginiana* – C, N

This tree has a narrow compact columnar profile. Wildlife like its berries. This aromatic wood was prized by early colonists for their log cabins, furniture and rail fences.

2. Balsam Fir, *Abies balsamea* – C, N

This is the only fir tree native to New England and is known for its fragrant smell and use as a Christmas tree. It is also used in knotty pine paneling and as a pulpwood for making paper. Deer and moose eat it in the winter.

3. Douglas Fir, *Pseudotsuga menziesii* – C, E

This is a close relative of the Hemlock family and is usually found in the Rocky Mountain states and northwestern United States. Next to the Giant Sequoias, it is our largest tree and can grow up to 200 feet. It is used for plywood, construction timber and other lumber.

4. Austrian Pine, *Pinus nigra* – C, E

This is a fast growing hardy, ornamental tree also known as a European Black Pine. It has a dense rounded profile of dark green needles and grows to about 60 feet. Its needles are two in a bundle.

5. Red Pine, *Pinus resinosa* – C, N

This is a large tree with an irregular or rounded profile. It is sometimes called a Norway Pine or mistaken for a Norway Spruce. Its needles are two in a bundle.

6. White Pine, *Pinus strobus* – C, N

The Eastern White Pine is the largest conifer in the northeast and may grow to a height of 100 feet. In the colonial period, these trees were used for ship masts. It is the state tree of Maine. Its needles are five in a bundle

7. Norway Spruce, *Picea abies* – C, E

This is the largest of the spruces and produces very showy cones. This has a pyramid shaped profile with spreading branches. It is often used as a Christmas tree.

8. White Spruce, *Picea glauca* – C, N

This tree has a conical profile. It is also known as a Canadian Spruce and is the most important pulpwood tree in that country. It is also used for piano sounding boards, violins and other musical instruments.

9. Pitch Pine, *Pinus rigida* – C, N

This tree has a broad irregular profile. Colonists used its resin for turpentine and tar. It is the most common pine on Cape Cod and tolerates sandy, rocky soil. Its needles are three in a bundle.

Deciduous

10. Green Ash, *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* – D, N

This is a hardy, fast-growing hardwood tree that does well along streams in floodplain forests. It is also known as Swamp Ash or Water Ash.

11. American Beech, *Fagus grandiflora* – D, N

This is a large tree with rounded profile that produces edible beechnuts that are eaten by squirrels, raccoons, bears and birds. Unlike most trees, this tree retains a smooth bark in age.

12. European Beech, *Fagus sylvatica* – D, E

Large shade tree with smooth bark. It has a stout trunk with a rounded profile. This tree produces edible beechnuts that livestock and wildlife enjoy.

13. Paper Birch, *Betula papyrifera* – D, N

This is the state tree of New Hampshire and is also known as a White Birch or Canoe Birch. It often grows in nearly pure stands in moist upland soils. It is used for specialty products such as ice cream sticks, toothpicks, clothespins and toys. Native Americans used the bark in making canoes. Please never strip bark from a living tree because it will leave a permanent black scar.

14. Sweet Birch, *Betula lenta* – D, N

This aromatic tree is also known as Black Birch or Cherry Birch. It has a rounded profile and odor of wintergreen in crushed twigs or leaves. The trees can be tapped in early spring like Sugar Maples and fermented sap made into birch beer.

15. European White Birch, *Betula pendula* – D, E

This is an ornamental tree that grows to about 50 feet with a profile of long drooping branches that grows well in moist soils. It is frequently planted in parks and cemeteries.

16. Boxelder, *Acer negundo* – D, N

This is a hardy fast growing tree used for shelter belts although they can be broken in storms. Native Americans of the Plains used its sap to produce sugar. It has a short trunk and rounded profile.

17. Kentucky Coffeetree, *Gymnocladus dioicus* – D, E

This is a tree with a short-trunk and narrow profile. The seeds it produces were once roasted and used as a coffee substitute. Its leaves develop late in the spring and drop early in the fall. This is one of seven trees planted in this section of the park in memory of Christa McAuliffe and the other astronauts who died in the Challenger space accident in 1986. Ms. McAuliffe lived a few blocks from the park and was a science teacher at Concord High School.

18. Cork Tree, *Phellodendron amurense* – D, E

This tree will grow to 40 feet tall and the bark develops a beautiful and unusual cork-like pattern. It is a native tree of northern China and Japan.

19. Sweet Crabapple, *Malus coronaria* – D, N

This is a small tree with a short trunk and broad profile. The fruit can be made into preserves and cider.

20. American Elm, *Ulmus americana* – D, N

This a large graceful tree with a broad, rounded, flat-topped or vase-like profile, often wider than high. It was once an abundant tree that has been destroyed by Dutch Elm disease, a fungus introduced accidentally about 1930 and spread by European and native elm bark beetles.

21. Siberian Elm, *Ulmus pumila* – D, E

This is a small to medium sized tree with a rounded profile. It is also called Dwarf Elm or Asiatic Elm. This elm tree is fast growing in dry regions and resistant to Dutch Elm disease.

22. Gingko, *Ginkgo biloba* – D, E

This known as a living fossil related to conifers and sole survivor of its ancient and formerly widespread family. It is sometimes known as the Maidenhair tree because it leaves are like ferns. It was cultivated and preserved by Buddhists priests in temple gardens in China, Japan and Korea.

23. Honeylocust, *Gleditsia triacanthos* – D, E

Easily recognized by the large, branched spines on the trunk. Wildlife like to eat the honey-like, sweet pulp of the pods. The spines have been used as pins.

24. Horsechestnut, *Aesculus hippocastanum* – D, E

This is an ornamental tree with stout branches and coarse foliage. It is showy when bearing masses of whitish flowers for a few weeks in the spring. It does well in city conditions. The Turks used the seeds to create a medicine for horses with a cough hence the name.

25. American Basswood, *Tilia americana* – D, N

This is a large shade tree that is related to the native basswoods. It does well in moist soils. The flowers are source of honey. Also called American Linden.

26. European Larch, *Larix decidua* – D, E

This tree is a cone-bearing tree with needles that are shed every year. The bark has been used in medicine and tanning. The timber is used for utility poles, railway ties and posts.

27. Bigleaf Magnolia, *Magnolia macrophylla* – D, E

This is the tree with the largest flowers and largest leaves of all native North American species except for tropical palms. It grows well in the moist valleys and in understory of hardwood forests. It was discovered near Charlotte NC in 1789 by the French explorer and naturalist, Andre Michaux.

28. Norway Maple, *Acer platanoides* – D, E

This is a fast growing street tree tolerant of insects, dust and smoke. It has a rounded profile and often is confused with a Sugar Maple.

29. Red Maple, *Acer rubrum* – D, N

This tree has the greatest distribution of all tree species along the East Coast. This large tree is red in different seasons. The pioneers made ink, cinnamon and brown and black dyes from this tree.

30. Sugar Maple, *Acer saccharum* – D, N

This tree produces striking multi-colored foliage in the fall and its wood is desired for furniture. The boiled concentrated sap it produces in the Spring is used to make maple sugar and syrup, a use the colonists learned from the Native Americans. Each tree produces 5-60 gallons of sap per year and 32 gallons of sap is needed for 1 gallon of maple syrup. This is the state tree of Vermont and New York.

31. Pin Oak, *Quercus palustris* – D, E

This is also known as Swamp Ok because it does well in poorly drained wet soil. It produces half-inch long and nearly round acorns. This is a popular, attractive lawn tree with regular compact form and fine textured foliage. It is named for the many short side twigs or pin like spurs.

32. Red Oak, *Quercus rubra* – D, N

This is a large tree with rounded profile and most important lumber species of the red oak. It grows rapidly and is a popular shade and street tree.

33. Scarlet Oak, *Quercus coccinea* – D, N

This tree is also known as Red Oak or Black Oak. It is a large tree with glossy leaves and brilliant autumn foliage. It tolerates dry sandy soils and has very fissured bark. This is a softwood tree often used for making paper.

34. White Oak, *Quercus alba* – D, N

This is the classic eastern oak, with wide spreading branches and a rounded profile. It can grow 80-100 feet. It is an important lumber tree and is also called a Stave Oak because the wood is excellent for making tight barrels for whiskey and other liquids. This is the state tree of Maryland.

35. Weeping Willow, *Salix babylonica* – D, E

This tree is has a short trunk and broad irregular profile of drooping branches. It is from China but naturalized locally. It is one of the first willows to bear leaves in the spring and the last to drop them in the fall.

36. American Yellowwood, *Cladrastis kentukea* – D, E

A medium sized tree with short trunk with clear yellow heartwood, that has been used as a source of yellow dye. It produces a flat, narrow oblong pod in early autumn.

Key

C – Conifer, a cone bearing tree that is usually evergreen. ☼

D – Deciduous, a tree that sheds its leaves annually. ☼

N – Native, a tree that occurs naturally in this area of New Hampshire.

E – Exotic, a tree does not occur naturally in this area of New Hampshire.

Notice the shape of the leaf or needle, texture and color of the bark, size, shape and profile of the mass of branches or leaves at the top and the tree's height. These characteristics will help you to identify the variety of trees in the park. This brochure highlights only 36 of the more than 400 trees in the park. 7/04

Sources: The Audubon Field Guide to North American Trees, Eastern Region, July 1993; Copley Wolff Design Group, Boston, MA.

Inches						
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